

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following subheading on page 1 after the title:

FIELD OF TECHNOLOGY

Please insert the following subheading on page 1 between lines 8 and 9:

BACKGROUND

Please insert the following subheading on page 8 between lines 8 and 9:

SUMMARY

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 5, as follows:

Unallocated switch requests may be reserved for use in the next phase ~~next~~
~~stage~~ of switch request allocation, or abandoned if they have an expiry time.

Please insert the following subheading on page 10 between lines 11 and 12:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please insert the following subheading on page 10 between lines 22 and 23:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION